



Church of Sky (2002)

Liner Notes

Shantala Music

www.shantalamusic.com

Tracks

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Track 1 – “Etched in Stone”

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Delicate curves of faces carved in stone
The lines are soft but hard as bone
While each shape is carved, it changes on its own
Love is etched in stone

When we were dancing a dance with no name
No two movements were ever the same
Pressed solid against me, artist of the unknown
And our love was etched in stone

Bridge:
One rainy day a sculpture took shape
In the lines of your face
And the curves I love to trace
Love grew its own way 'til we became soft clay
Molded by hands we couldn't see
Making love was poetry
Spoken in a voice we could not hear
You are still near and our love is etched in stone

When the rain comes down year after year
And the mountains dissolve inside the sky's tears
When there is no form, nor lover's hand to hold
Listen and know
Love is etched in stone

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar

Benjy Wertheimer: Keyboards

Jeff Leonard: Bass

Tina Malia: Backing vocals

Michael Mandrell: 12-String guitar

Track 2 – “Dance Me”

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We glide through the crowd in a smoky hall
All evening dance to moody rock and roll
Slip out the back to get some air
You run your fingers through my hair

When the music ends you take me home
Before we go inside
You wrap your mouth around mine
Against the back door, feel you through my jeans
I still hear the music, won't you please

Chorus: Dance me

Slide into my eyes and wear me all over
Look out through my mind and breathe my sighs
Feel yourself against my skin
Be the rhythm as I let you in

Chorus

One love, one beat
One lover with four feet
One drummer, two faces
One rain dance to wash me clean

Chorus

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar

Benjy Wertheimer: Percussion, drum programming

Tim Ellis: Rhythm and lead guitar

Jeff Leonard: Bass
Tina Malia: Backing vocals
Jim Walker: Backing vocals

Track 3 – “Roll Over With Me”

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I was so shy to let you love me so strong
But you were so kind, I knew it wasn't wrong
Our first night together you never let me go
When I turned over you held on to my soul

Chorus:

Roll over with me
Through all the seasons our lives will see
Roll over and over with me
You are turning into my dream

When you held me all night I had a beautiful dream
That you were the one who never did leave
I was a flower held in your hand
You still loved me as I grew into a seed

Chorus

I awoke for a moment and found you still there
Heard the song of your heartbeat
Sweet breath in my hair
I could love you forever in the blink of an eye
Dream of the years before they roll by

Chorus

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar
Benjy Wertheimer: Backing vocals
Jeff Leonard: Bass
Michael Mandrell: Guitar

Track 4 – “No Safe Place”

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and Julianna Waters

What kind of world is this? To take a little boy
Lock up his father and take away his pride
The crowds threw stones at you
Just because you were a Jew
Unfortunate enough to be born in World War II

There's no safe place, there's no safe time
They will come to take you away
To the place where people die
There's no safe place they won't find

What kind of world is this? For a grown man
To make him feel so bitter,
He had to start all over again
Your father pounded it into you
This man who was born a Jew
He lost everything in World War II

Bridge:
How could people stand behind the wire
And still find the heart to smile?
What kind of world is this?

What kind of world is this? For a little girl
When her father's generation lost six million lives
I throw my love at you
'Cause that's what daughters do
Even in the aftermath of World War II

Credits:
Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar
Benjy Wertheimer: Djembe, keyboards
Tim Ellis: Balalaika
Jeff Leonard: Bass
Michael Mandrell: Guitar
Jim Walker: Backing vocals

Track 5 - "My Island"

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Awake from a dream that shattered my sleep
I discover your shore
Lost in a sea of blankets and sheets
You reach through the mist to pull me aboard

Chorus:

You are my island, you are my island

Stone is smooth, the ocean is rough
Your body is enough
Anchor and ship, harbor and lips
You reach through the waves to hold me safe

Chorus

Adrift on the waves, the waves of your breath
Sound of ocean from your core
Soft and warm, water with form
You reach from your soul to breathe me whole

Chorus

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar
Benjy Wertheimer: Esraj, keyboards
Ben Klinger: Piano
Jeff Leonard: Bass
Tina Malia: Backing vocals
David Michael: Zither
Julian Smedley: Violin, viola

Track 6 - "Journey"

©2002 David Michael

Credits:

David Michael: Harp
Benjy Wertheimer: Keyboards

Track 7 - "Island Suite"

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Credits:

Benjy Wertheimer: Tabla

Heidi Haehlen: Bansuri flute

David Michael: Harp, zither

Jeff Leonard: Bass

Michael Mandrell: Guitar

Julian Smedley: Violin

Track 8 - "Madrone"

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The madrone tree sheds its skin
Every year when autumn begins
You know that's how I feel
Every time I let you in

The madrone tree keeps its leaves
When winter turns the sky to steel
You know that's how I feel
When I think of leaving you for real

Bridge:

Love grew tall with the first shoots of spring
So tall we couldn't see the ground
Path overgrown by seeds love had sown

In the forest, other trees
Keep their bark, lose their leaves
Branches bare, all alone
Let me always be your madrone

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar

Benjy Wertheimer: Keyboards

Phil Hansen: Cello

Tina Malia: Backing vocals

David Michael: Harp, zither

Wah!: Five-string violin

Track 9 - "Church of Sky"

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At thirty thousand feet in the church of sky
You're on the ground below,
Grandmother, eighty-nine years old
I can see a long, long way and land beside you
Before your dying day

You live ten states away and I'm afraid
At thirty thousand feet
There are blue skies every day
I can almost taste the clouds melting
Into my face

Chorus:

I never lived the way you like
Living in sin more than twice
Scolded by the silence
And the sadness in your eyes

At eighty-nine years old
Finally starting to go slow
It's almost time to go, wish you could wait
I'll be at the airport 'til you leave me
At the gate

Chorus:

I remember spinning
Round and round and round
Looking up 'til I fell back down
Laughing 'til my face was tired, laughing
Cause I felt you by my side

I am white and blue and blue and white
So full of clouds I start to cry
Soon you will know why
I belong to the church of sky
At thirty thousand feet in the church of sky . . .

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar

Benjy Wertheimer: Esraj, keyboards
Bob Brozman: Seven-string Hawaiian guitar
Tina Malia: Backing vocals
Julian Smedley: Violin, viola

Track 10 - "Looking for a Storm"

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Often time is way too thin
The past comes out and reaches in
Takes me back a page or two
Until I can remember who
Put hard words inside my head
Before there was a wall
Made love to my body
When there was no love at all

Sometimes things get stuck inside
Like all the tears never cried
Something got wired in, saying,
This is gonna hurt again
Whatever you put inside me never came back out
I'm still braced against the wind
That years ago died down

Chorus:

I'm still looking for a storm
I know it's coming down
All the things I feel inside
Won't listen to my mind
I'm still looking for a storm

It takes something soft as snow
To wear down thoughts as hard as stone
Glaciers thaw in their own time
And give themselves to dandelions
Infinite moments lie in a piece of the ground
Waiting to grow up when the rain comes down

Chorus

I'm still looking, I'm still looking
I'm still looking for a storm

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar

Benjy Wertheimer: Keyboards

Tim Ellis: Guitar

Phil Hansen: Cello

Jeff Leonard: Bass

Tina Malia: Backing vocals

Track 11 - "You Are My Soul"

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I'd like to fly with the wind
Over the city down below
I'd like to fly with the wind
Show my neighbors a rainbow
We talk to each other
Through closed doors of culture
And never know

I'd like to walk in the street
With every color
Wrapped around me
I'd like to walk in the street
Until all races live in peace
We talk to each other
Through closed doors of culture
And never know
You are my soul

Bridge:

The sidewalk's hot
Bare feet get burned
When the heat is on
We can try to learn

I'd like to fly with the wind
Where the wild places grow
I'd like to fly with the wind

Where oak trees don't mind
Growing next to a pine
We talk to each other
Through closed doors of culture
And never know
You are my soul
You are my soul

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar
Benjy Wertheimer: Djembe, shakers
Tim Ellis: Guitar
Ben Klinger: Piano
Jeffrey Kolwitz: Upright bass
Wah!: Five-string violin
Jim Walker: Backing vocals

Track 12 - "Hard to Hold"

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When the wind rose up
She heard the wind chimes blow
Hard like china smashed on the floor
The day she couldn't hold on anymore

His words told
Of a love he used to know
Gentle as a daisy petal
Brushing his face with her fingers of gold

Chorus:

Now she's hard to hold
When she's feeling swept away
Like pieces of a broken vase

When he held her sometimes
She was in another room
Where the pictures on the wall
Were all that got her through

Chorus:

She's hard to hold
Feeling swept away
Like pieces of broken clay

There's ivy growing on a fence in the back yard
You can't see where it's going
But it works really hard

Chorus:
It's hard to hold, feeling swept away
Like pieces of broken fence,
It's hard to hold, feeling swept away
Like pieces of broken fence someday

Credits:
Heather Wertheimer: Vocals, guitar
Benjy Wertheimer: Wind chimes
Tim Ellis: Guitar
Phil Hansen: Cello
Joe Jencks: Backing vocals
Jeff Leonard: Bass

Track 13 - "Going Twice"

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Did you ever stop to look in my eyes
To see how I felt as you walked out on my life?
I can't remember being three,
When you left you took a piece of me
And left me with the rest
As if that's all I'd ever need

Chorus:
You're going once and going twice
You left me then and left again
You're going once and going twice
I paid the highest price

I found you down at the corner café
Twenty-three years after you left me that day
I told you,

I've been looking for you most of my life
Then I looked you in the eye and said,
I am the child you left behind

Chorus

Bridge:

Next time I called, they said, let him rest in peace
The quiet of that moment came alive in me
A silence so familiar, it all came back again
You didn't say goodbye this time,
and you didn't say it then

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals
Benjy Wertheimer: Backing vocals
Barry Crannell: High-strung guitar
Jeff Leonard: Bass
Tina Malia: Backing vocals
Michael Mandrell: Guitar

Track 14 - "Fallen Heart Blue"

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Chorus:

It's a long way out of this river
It's a long way out to the sky
You can go where you want to, I will fall into you
It's a long way out of this fallen heart blue

Inside my body
There's a place I go
I've been swimming in this love
Dive in my swimming hole
It's true, I love you
I've been trying to take it slow
But all the good things about you
Are too good to let go

Chorus

Bridge:

On top of a mountain

Into the sky

I let myself fall

And your open arms told me why

Chorus

It's a long way out of this fallen heart

It's a long way out of this fallen heart

It's a long way out of this fallen heart blue

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals

Benjy Wertheimer: Backing vocals

Barry Crannell: Rhythm guitar

Tim Ellis: Rhythm and lead guitar

Jeffrey Kolwitz: Upright bass

Tina Malia: Backing vocals

Track 15 - "Between the Lines"

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On the first day of grade school

Time to draw, and the first rule

Broken 'cause I couldn't confine

My crayon to stay between the lines

Teenage years are time to try

Everything except to die

I kept my clothes on until the wine

Let someone touch between the . . . lines

Chorus:

Older and trying to be wise

When there's a teenager still on the loose inside

It's harder to stay in the lines

When the moon is out and I'm out of my mind

I'm in love with the man of my dreams

Hearts can't remember their lines it seems

Pulled to the left in the dark of a dance
About to cut in on an extra romance

Chorus

I know you're not mine . . .
Better stay between the lines

Credits:

Heather Wertheimer: Vocals

Benjy Wertheimer: Percussion, guitar, backing vocals, keyboards

Bob Brozman: National resonator guitar, Seven-string baritone Hawaiian guitar,
charango, walaicho, ronroco

Jeffrey Kolwitz: Upright bass